

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15

PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 /057 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1046

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

CNO PRIORITY

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

COMFAIRMED PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

DIA PRIORITY

NAVDET SOUDA BAY CRETE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 8272

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR NATO GR US

SUBJ: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RUNWAY AT SOUDA BAY

REF A. STATE 253964 B. NATO 5771 C. ATHENS 8025

1. GIVEN THE SUBSTANTIAL RISK THAT PREMATURE EXPOSURE
OF SITUATION IN A NATO FORUM WILL ONLY EXACERBATE THE
PROBLEM BY STIMULATING FURTHER TURKISH CRITICISM, AND
THUS PERHAPS DELAY OR INHIBIT RESOLVING THE ISSUE FAVORABLY
FROM THE U.S. POINT OF VIEW, WE HOPE THAT USNATO MIGHT BE
ABLE TO INDUCE GREEK DELEGATION (IN APPROACH RECOMMENDED
PARA 4, REF B) TO REPORT TO ATHENS THE DIFFICULTIES THE
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PROJECTED NEW RUNWAY WILL CREATE. UNTIL THIS APPROACH

HAS HAD A CHANCE TO ALERT THE GOG TO THE FULL DIMENSIONS OF THE PROBLEM, WE URGE THAT SUBJECT NOT BE INTRODUCED INTO ANY NATO FORUM.

2. WE WOULD PROPOSE THEN TO REINFORCE THE EFFORT OF USNATO BY FOLLOWING IT UPP WITH DEFMIN AVEROFF. OUR APPROACH WOULD BE CAST, TRUTHFULLY, AS AN EFFORT TO HELP GOG AVOID CREATING EVEN GREATER PROBLEMS FOR ITSELF, AND OUR RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE--IF DEPARTMENT AGREES--THAT IMPROVEMENT OF SOUDA AB BE CONCENTRATED ON EXISTING TAXIWAY RATHER THAN A NEW RUNWAY. KUBISCH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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